

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

CPG #NM-518

Application of Jonathan and Linda Foote for a       )  
certificate of public good for an interconnected       )  
farm net-metered biogas generation system       )

Order entered: 8/26/2008

**I. INTRODUCTION**

This case involves an application filed by Jonathan and Linda Foote ("Applicants") on July 24, 2008, requesting a certificate of public good ("CPG") pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 219a and 248 and Vermont Public Service Board ("Board") Rule 5.100 for a net metering system. The net metering system is a farm system that utilizes a biogas generation system and includes two electric meters on the Applicants's property.

Notice of the application in this docket was sent to all parties as specified in the Board's Rule 5.100. The notice stated that any party wishing to submit comments or request a hearing in this matter needed to file comments with the Board within thirty (30) days of the date that the notice of the application was sent.

On August 21, 2008, the Town of Charlotte Selectboard filed a letter with the Board stating that it did not oppose the installation of the system.

No other comments have been received.

The Board has reviewed the application and accompanying documents and agrees that, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 219a and 248 and the Board's Rule 5.100, a CPG should be issued without further investigation or hearing.

**II. FINDINGS**

Based upon the application and its accompanying documents, the Board makes the following findings in this matter.

1. The proposed group net metering project is located on a farm owned by the Applicants at 2766 Mt. Philo Road in Charlotte, Vermont. Application at Section 1.

2. The proposed net metering facility will use an anaerobic digester to produce methane gas from the digestion of cow manure from the farm. The methane will in turn be used to power a biogas generator to produce electricity. Application at Section 6 and attachments.

3. The proposed system consists of a biogas generator with a total system rated power output of 19 kW AC. The facility will be interconnected with the Green Mountain Power Corporation electrical distribution system. Application at Section 4 and attachments.

4. Applicants have specified the meters to be included in the farm system by account number and location. Applicants have also provided a method for adding or removing meters included in the farm system. Application at Section 7 and attachments.

5. Applicants have designated Jonathan Foote as the person responsible for receiving all communications regarding the farm system. Application at Section and attachments.

6. All disputes among users of the farm system shall be resolved by the Applicants. Application at Section 7 and attachments.

7. Applicants have certified that the project is in compliance with all of the provisions of Sections 3 and 8 of the application. Based on these submissions, we conclude that the project does not raise a significant issue with respect to the environmental criteria of 30 V.S.A. § 248. Application at Sections 3 and 8 and Attachments.

8. Applicants have certified compliance with the insurance requirements as set forth in Section 3 of the application. Application at Section 3.

### **III. CONCLUSION**

In Docket No. 6181,<sup>1</sup> the Board developed a net metering program in accordance with the statutory requirements of 30 V.S.A. § 219a. This program was further refined by the Board with the adoption of Board Rule 5.100. The goals of the Order and Rule are to encourage private investment in renewable energy resources, stimulate the economic growth of the state and enhance the continued diversification of energy sources used in Vermont. The standards and requirements adopted in the Order and Rule have been determined by the Board to protect public safety and system reliability.

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1. *Investigation into the Use of A Net Metering System for the Purchase and Sale of Electricity from Small Electrical Generating Systems to and from Electric Companies*, Docket No. 6181, April 21, 1999.

Based upon the findings and evidence, the proposed net metering project will be in compliance with the requirements of the Board's Order in Docket No. 6181 and Rule 5.100, the application does not raise a significant issue with respect to the substantive criteria of 30 V.S.A. § 248, and the proposed project will promote the general good of the state.

#### **IV. ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Public Service Board of the State of Vermont that the farm net metering system, in accordance with the evidence and plans submitted in this proceeding, will promote the general good of the State of Vermont pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 219a, and a certificate of public good to that effect shall be issued in this matter, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 219a and 248.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, this 26th day of August, 2008.

<u>s/James Volz</u>	)	
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<u>s/David C. Coen</u>	)	
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PUBLIC SERVICE  
BOARD  
OF VERMONT

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: August 26, 2008

Attest: s/Susan M. Hudson  
Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)*

*Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within thirty days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further Order by this Board or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within ten days of the date of this decision and order.*